

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4798

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 26307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN VN FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH REPRESENTATIONS FOR VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP

IN UN

REF: STATE 219959

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 7
CONCERNING OTHER UNGA PROBLEMS REPORTED SEPTEL, QUAI
UN DIRECTOR ST. LEGIER MADE REPRESENTATIONS FAVORING
ADMISSION OF VIETNAM TO UN. ST. LEGIER REFERRED TO
DEMARCHE MADE TO DEPARTMENT BY FRENCH EMBASSY PER REF,
AND REPEATED SUBSTANTIALLY SAME ARGUMENT.

2. ST. LEGIER ADDED THAT LAST YEAR THERE WERE TWO
SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTIONS TO VIETNAM ADMISSION, BOTH OF
WHICH ARE NO LONGER VALID THIS YEAR. FIRST WAS THAT
BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM WERE APPLYING EVEN THOUGH
EARLY UNIFICATION HAD BEEN SCHEDULED; ST. LEGIER SAID
EVEN PRESIDENT Giscard HAD BEEN HESITANT UNDER SUCH
CIRCUMSTANCES TO FAVOR ADMISSION WHICH HE FEARED MIGHT
RESULT IN TWO VOTES FOR HANOI SIMILAR TO MOSCOW'S
THREE VOTES IN UN. OTHER OBJECTION LAST YEAR -- THOUGH
NOT VALID IN FRENCH EYES -- WAS COMMUNIST REJECTION OF
SOUTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ("SELECTIVE
UNIVERSALITY"); THIS YEAR, AS FAR AS FRANCE KNOWS,
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THERE IS NO PENDING APPLICATION FROM SEOUL. IN

ABSENCE OF THESE TWO OBJECTIONS GOES STRONGLY FAVORS
VIETNAMESE ADMISSION IN THE SPIRIT OF THE UN CHARTER
PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY, AND INASMUCH AS VIETNAM
SATISFIES OTHER CRITERIA OF STATEHOOD.

3. FINALLY, ST. LEGIER ARGUED THAT HANOI IS
SUFFICIENTLY INDEPENDENT FROM BOTH PEKING AND MOSCOW SO
AS TO MAKE ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE UN "INTERESTING".
THIS REMARK OBVIOUSLY CORRESPONDS WITH FRENCH EMBASSY
POSITION PER REFTEL THAT UN MEMBERSHIP WOULD HELP
INFLUENCE VIETNAMESE TOWARD GREATER MODERATION.
RUSH

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